



Department of Justice

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PROMOTER OF ILLEGAL TAX SHELTER PLEADS GUILTY

CINCINNATI – Wilson Moss Graham, a Mason accountant, pleaded guilty in United States District Court here today to one count of conspiring to assist in the preparation of false federal income tax returns for his role in the promotion of an illegal tax shelter system.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, and Jose Gonzalez, Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, announced the plea entered today before Chief United States District Judge Sandra S. Beckwith.

A federal grand jury indicted Graham and five others in connection with the promotion of an illegal tax shelter system that was marketed and sold by the Aegis Company, an Illinois company. Graham and the others were scheduled to begin trial on June 17, 2008.

In a statement of facts filed with the plea, Graham, age 71, admitted that he and his co-conspirators assisted clients in establishing a series of sham trusts designed to conceal income from the Internal Revenue Service. As part of the scheme, Graham prepared false federal income tax returns on behalf of several clients. Graham's illegal conduct caused a tax loss of between \$2.5 and \$7 million.

Graham faces a maximum punishment of up to five (5) years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. Judge Beckwith will set a date for sentencing.

Lockhart commended the investigation by Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation agents, and Thomas G. Voracek, Trial Attorney with the Department of Justice Tax Division, who prosecuted the case.

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